

## MEMORANDUM

From J.W. Wright, Chief VBC

To Dr M. Kaplan, Director OST Date 15 February 1973  
Attention :

Our ref. VBC

Subject: YELLOW FEVER IN SOUTH ASIA

Your ref.

---

We in VBC are unanimous of the opinion that the reason that yellow fever has not established itself in South Asia is not because Aedes is not a vector of the virus. In fact it has been shown that the Indian species of Aedes aegypti is capable of transmitting yellow fever under laboratory conditions. It has also been shown that Aedes albopictus is a vector of yellow fever and that this species is widespread in Asia. Although this is out of our field, we are more of the opinion that the reason that yellow fever is not in Asia is more likely to be associated with immunity in the human population. Whilst on this subject another important point to consider is that yellow fever has not reached the Comoro islands, Madagascar, Reunion and Mauritius, despite the boat traffic from the East African coast and the abundance of Aedes aegypti and Aedes albopictus there. However, you might wish to refer the question to the Virus Unit as well.

